

Academic Contest Overview 2006/2007

Biotechnology Institute-Sanofi-aventis International BioGENEius

Contact: www.biotechinstitute.org/

National Conference/Contest:

Dates: May 5, 2007 through May 7, 2007

Location: Boston, Massachusetts

Overview:

The Biotechnology Institute is dedicated to educating teachers, students and the public about the promise and challenges of biotechnology. Through year-round programs, the Institute is creating a base of understanding and awareness about biotechnology among teachers and students –and building the next generation of leaders in the industry. Founded by the biotechnology community in 1998, the Biotechnology Institute is an independent, national nonprofit organization based in Arlington, VA.

To engage, excite and educate the public, particularly young people, about biotechnology and its immense potential for solving human health, food and environmental problems

Under the Biotechnology Institute's direction, the **sanofi-aventis International BioGENEius Challenge** is an annual competition for high school students that recognizes outstanding research in biotechnology.

DECA International Career and Development Conference

Contact: www.deca.org

National Conference:

Dates: April 27, 2007 through May 2, 2007

Location: Orlando, Florida

Overview:

The mission of DECA is to enhance the co-curricular education of students with interests in marketing, management and entrepreneurship. DECA helps students develop skills and competence for marketing careers, build self-esteem, experience leadership and practice community service. DECA is committed to the advocacy of marketing education and the growth of business and education partnerships. The International Career Development Conference (ICDC) is the highlight of the DECA year. Thirteen thousand students, advisors, businesspersons and alumni gather for several days of DECA excitement. Most participants are at ICDC to compete in one of DECA's competency based competitive events. The top competitors in each event are recognized for their outstanding achievements.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)

Contact: <http://www.fcclainc.org/>

National Conference:

Dates: July 8, 2007 through July 12, 2007

Location: Anaheim, California

Overview:

FCCLA is a nonprofit national career and technical student organization for young men and women in family and consumer sciences education in public and private school through grade 12.

Everyone is part of a family, and Family Career and Community Leaders of America is the only national career and technical student organization with the family as its central focus. Since 1945, FCCLA members have been making a difference in their families, careers and communities by addressing important personal, work and societal issues through family and consumer sciences education.

For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (F.I.R.S.T) Robotics Championship

Contact: www.usfirst.org/robotics/2006/chevents.htm

National Conference:

Dates: April 12, 2007 through April 14, 2007

Location: Atlanta, Georgia

Overview:

The *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition is an exciting, multinational competition that teams professionals and young people to solve an engineering design problem in an intense and competitive way. "The program is a life-changing, career-molding experience-and a lot of fun." In 2006, the competition will include over several

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thousand high-school aged students from 331 teams across the world, and not to mention almost every U.S. state. Examples of the countries participating include, but are not limited to Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, Israel, Mexico, and the UK.

Competitive Robotics is designed to inspire youth to explore sciences, technology, mathematics, and team group dynamics by providing them with a real-world engineering design problem and forcing them to use their skills and teamwork techniques learned. Students will interact with professionals, students, and community mentors. Weekly after-school meetings are scheduled to allow student training with their mentors in preparation for building the robots at their national competition.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) National Leadership Conference

Contact: www.FBLA-pbl.org

National Conference:

Dates: June 28, 2007 through July 1, 2007

Location: Chicago, Illinois

Overview:

Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) education association of students preparing for careers in business and business-related fields. The FBLA-PBL Mission is to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs. FBLA-PBL is headquartered in Reston, Virginia, and organized on local, state and national levels. Business teachers/advisers and advisory councils (including school officials, business people and community representatives) guide local chapters. State advisers and committee members coordinate chapter activities for the national organization. The National Leadership Conference convenes the best and brightest of FBLA and

PBL to compete in leadership events, share their successes and learn new ideas about shaping their career future. This conference allows students to showcase and reinforce their ability to use problem-solving skills, creativity, technology, and their basic skills.

Future Problem Solving International Competition

Contact: www.fpsp.org

National Conference: FPSP International Conference

Dates: May 31, 2007 through June 3, 2007

Location: Fort Collins, Colorado

Overview:

The Future Problem Solving Program (FPSP) engages students in creative problem solving. Founded by creativity pioneer, Dr. E. Paul Torrance, FPSP stimulates critical and creative thinking skills and encourages students to develop a vision for the future. FPSP features curricular and co-curricular competitive, as well as non-competitive, activities in creative problem solving. The Future Problem Solving Program involves over 250,000 students annually from the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Korea, Malaysia, and Russia.

National Future Farmers of America (FFA) Agricultural Issues Career & Development Event

Contact: www.ffa.org/programs/cde/index.html

National Conference

Dates: October 24, 2007 through October 27, 2007

Location: Indianapolis, Indiana

Overview:

The objective of this event is to provide students with the opportunity to select, research, plan, and present a specific agricultural issue. The particular objective challenges students to both understand the relevance of mastering the English language, and the importance of applying the skills learned in the classroom (science, math, English) while interacting with agriculture. Students are also afforded the opportunity and challenge to develop skills in community leadership. They are shown the importance the aforementioned skills play in identifying local, state, and national agricultural issues, and how to analyze these skills to reach a consensus. It serves not only as a tool to evaluate their skills, but also to enable their investigation of a variety of careers in business, technology, agriculture, and science.

Each year at the national contest scholarships are awarded to high-placing students to support their postsecondary education in related areas of the Agriscience curriculum. Career and Development Events (CDEs) are designed to fit a variety of learning styles and test them appropriately. Each contest includes multiple components ranging from written tests, oral presentations, individual and team demonstrations, problem solving situations, and visual identifications. This format requires students to be creative as they both make and defend decisions to industry leading experts.

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National History Day

Contact: www.NHD.org ; www.nationalhistoryday.org ; www.nhdarizona.org

National Conference: National History Day Contest

Dates: July 10, 2007 through July 14, 2007

Location: University of Maryland

Overview:

The National History Day program is a year-long education program that begins at the district level and culminates in a national contest every June. This year-long education program engages students in grades 6-12 in the process of discovery and interpretation of historical topics. Students produce dramatic performances, imaginative exhibits, multimedia documentaries and research papers based on research related to an annual theme. These projects are then evaluated at local, state, and national competitions.

National Science Olympiad

Contact: www.soinc.org

National Conference:

Dates: May 16, 2007 through May 19, 2007

Location: Wichita State University

Overview:

The Science Olympiad is an international nonprofit organization devoted to improving the quality of science education, creating a passion for learning science and providing recognition for outstanding achievement in science education by both students and teachers. These goals are accomplished through classroom activities, research, professional development workshops and the encouragement of intramural, district, regional, state, national and international academic interscholastic tournaments. The Science Olympiad tournaments are rigorous academic interscholastic competitions that consist of a series of individual and team events, which students prepare for during the year. The competitions follow the format of popular board games, TV shows and athletic games. These challenging and motivational events are well balanced between the various science disciplines of biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, computers and technology. There is also a balance between events requiring knowledge of science facts, concepts, processes, skills and science applications. In addition, during the day there are open house activities that consist of science and mathematics demonstrations, activities and career counseling sessions conducted by professors and scientists at the host institution occurring concurrently with the events.

National Engineers Week Future City

Contact: www.futurecity.org/

National Conference:

Dates: February 18, 2007 through February 24, 2007

Location: Washington, D.C

Overview:

National Engineers Week seeks to increase public awareness and appreciation of the engineering profession and technology by emphasizing their positive contributions to society. To help students better understand the practical applications of mathematical and scientific principles the National Engineers Week Committee is sponsoring the 15TH Annual National Engineers Week Future City Competition. Since the Future City Competition began, the education and engineering communities have recognized it as an innovative learning program. Excitement abounds throughout the classroom. Students are responsible for solving problems while creating their future city. The Future City Competition offers students a resourceful way to learn about engineering.

National Forensics League

Contact: <http://www.nflonline.org/Main/HomePage>

National Conference:

Dates: June 17, 2007 through June 22, 2007

Location: Wichita, Kansas

Overview:

The National Forensic League, NFL, is the leading honor society and educational resource for teachers, students, administrators, and parents in the exciting field of speech and debate education. With over 2,700 member schools and 90,000 active student members, we are continuously striving towards our goal of promoting the art of speech and debate. In doing so, we provide educational opportunities, honors, scholarships, and awards that recognize students at local, regional, and national levels. The NFL is proud of its 80 year tradition of "Training Youth for Leadership."

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National Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA)

Contact: www.hosa.org/

National Conference:

Date: June 20-23, 2007

Location: Orlando, Florida

Overview:

HOSA (HOSA) is a national student organization endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education and the Health Science Technology Education Division of ACTE. HOSA's two-fold mission is to promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. HOSA's goal is to encourage all health occupations instructors and students to join and be actively involved in the HSTE-HOSA Partnership. OSA provides a unique program of leadership development, motivation, and recognition exclusively for secondary, postsecondary, adult, and collegiate students enrolled in HSTE programs. HOSA is 100% health care!

HOSA's mission is especially critical when considering the acute shortage of qualified workers for the health care industry. It is essential that the HSTE-HOSA Partnership maintain its momentum and encourage all HSTE instructors to integrate HOSA into their curriculum and classrooms.

National Junior Classical League Latin

Contact: <http://www.njcl.org/>

National Conference:

Date: July 24, 2007 through July 29, 2007

Location: Knoxville, Tennessee

Overview:

Formed in 1936, the **National Junior Classical League (NJCL)** is an organization of junior and senior high school students sponsored by the [American Classical League](#). Composed of local and state/provincial chapters across the United States, Canada, and Australia, it is the largest Classical organization in the world today with over 50,000 members. Its purpose is to encourage an interest in and an appreciation of the language, literature and culture of ancient Greece and Rome and to impart an understanding of the debt of our own culture to that of Classical antiquity.

Odyssey of the Mind

Contact: www.odysseyofthemind.com

National Conference:

Dates: May 23, 2007 through May 26, 2006

Location: Michigan State University

Overview:

Odyssey of the Mind was created by [Dr. C. Samuel Micklus](#), Professor Emeritus at Rowan University in New Jersey. It is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Kids apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own

interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level. The World Finals is an international event where teams come together to compete for the World Championship in their long-term problem and division. Millions of kids from across the globe have been brainstorming, building, revising and perfecting their solutions throughout the school year with hopes of advancing from regional and association tournaments and on to World Finals. Even though teams compete against each other, camaraderie permeates every competition site because every team has the same goal...to be as creative as they can be.

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Skills USA –Technology/Robotics

Contact: www.azskillsusa.org

National Conference/Contest:

Dates: June 25, 2007 through June 29, 2007

Location: Kansas City, Missouri

Overview:

The competitions' purpose, as directed by the national organization, is to "test the knowledge of a team of contestants preparing for employment in the health occupation field..." In order for students to be evaluated on this goal they must prepare themselves in both academics as well as professional skills. Student should expect to be questioned on the following categories: academic foundations, communications, systems, employability skills, legal responsibility, ethics, safety practices, teamwork, and current events pertaining to the medical field. Students are judged according to how familiar they are with these objectives and their accuracy in answering such questions during this competition.

In addition to the academic goals of the competition the students will be able to practice various skills they have acquired through the school year. They will showcase their leadership abilities by assuming various positions during the contest. They will demonstrate their procedural knowledge of competition rules and regulations. The students must conduct themselves in a professional manner in both appearance and personality throughout the conference.